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Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515

March 21, 2023

The Honorable Kay Granger Chair Committee on Appropriations H-307, The Capitol United States House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515 The Honorable Rosa DeLauro Ranking Member Committee on Appropriations 1036 Longworth House Office Building United States House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairwoman Granger and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for the South Livermore Sewer Expansion Project in Fiscal Year 2024. The entity to receive funding for this project is Alameda County Board of Supervisors (District 1), located at 4501 Pleasanton Ave., Pleasanton, CA 94566.

The funding would be used to construct an extension of sanitary sewer lines to serve residences and wineries located within the South Livermore Valley in order to address groundwater quality issues and support the agricultural industry. The project would protect the health of thousands of East County residents by improving the quality of the ground water. Furthermore, the project will assist with the Livermore Wine Country's local economy, which has experienced alarming decline in recent years. Without an extension of city sewer service into the area, growth in the wine industry, agri-tourism broadly, and other important rural economies will be challenging.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because historic agricultural practices and a rural land use designation in this portion of Alameda County has resulted in the use of septic systems as a means of disposing of wastewater and has caused the accumulation of nitrates in groundwater. In some locations, nitrates have accumulated in groundwater to levels above what is considered safe for drinking water consumption. The proposed Livermore sewer extension project area is intended to reduce nitrate discharge into the groundwater basin and prevent further degradation of groundwater quality. The EPA enforces federal clean water and safe drinking water laws, provides support for municipal wastewater treatment plants, and takes part in pollution prevention efforts aimed at protecting watersheds and sources of drinking water.

The project has a Federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by Title VI of the Clean Water Act, 33 U.S.C 1381 et seq.

I certify that I have no financial interest in this project, and neither does anyone in my immediate family.

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